

Tomales Bay State Park Matrix #2: DRAFT Area Visitor Experience Goals

	HEART’S DESIRE AREA	INVERNESS AREA	MILLERTON AREA	MARCONI COVE	CYPRESS GROVE AREA
VISITOR EXPERIENCE GOALS <i>NATURAL AREAS</i>	Visitors find relaxation, rejuvenation, family fun, physical activity, education, and inspiration in the park’s natural and developed areas. Visitors will continue to enjoy the sense of refuge and escape offered by the three undeveloped “walk-in” beaches and the Jepson and Johnstone Trails. School groups continue to enjoy and learn from the Miwok Living History Program at Indian Beach. Hikers will be able to hike between the park’s Heart’s Desire Area and the trails of Point Reyes National Seashore.	Visitors will be able to enjoy secluded picnicking in the alder forest next to the creek and take a nature trail walk.	Day-use travelers down Highway 1 and visitors who may be picnicking or hiking the loop trail should have inspiring interpretive information, adequate parking, and sanitary restroom facilities.	<p>The broad natural vistas of the immediate bay offer the highly valued natural experience of being at the edge of a natural marine wonder formed by an active earthquake fault, full of sea and bird life, traversed by recreational and commercial boats, and moved by tides and weather.</p> <p>Though future development and landscaping of this disturbed area can create more of a natural feel to this area, the terrestrial visitor experience will be largely that of being in an area developed for recreational uses.</p>	Motorists and cyclists travelling along Highway 1 will continue to enjoy the natural vistas of Tomales Bay across the open land.
VISITOR EXPERIENCE GOALS <i>DEVELOPED SITES</i>	<p>Visitors will continue to enjoy the developed day-use facilities for beach recreation and picnicking at Heart’s Desire Beach. Visitors can picnic as individuals, as families, or as organized groups. Visitors will be able to camp as individuals, as families, or as organized groups to experience the park at all times of day.</p> <p>Visitors will be able to launch cartop watercraft. Paddlecraft users can launch from Heart’s Desire Beach and traverse the 1.5 miles to Marconi Cove or other bay destinations and return to their car.</p>	Visitors will continue to have the opportunity to hike the fire roads that extend up from the town of Inverness and intermittently cross TBSP land to the crest of Inverness Ridge. From here, National Park Service trails lead along the ridge and down into the Point Reyes Seashore. Some of these trail connections might be enhanced.	Visitors will have the opportunity to hike on the Millerton Loop trail and the Tomasini Point Trail (which may need toilet facilities and a larger parking area). Visitors will have the opportunity to hike or ride bicycles in the Millerton Uplands (which would probably require the siting of a small screened parking lot and toilet facilities on the east side of Highway 1).	<p>Day-use travelers down Highway 1 and visitors who come for bayside viewing, bird watching, picnicking, camping, or boating will have adequate parking, inspiring interpretive information, and sanitary restroom facilities. Visitors will have easy vehicle access to stop and interact with the bay, which is a rare opportunity on public lands fronting Tomales Bay.</p> <p>Visitors will be able to launch trailered boats and cartop watercraft. Camping could serve bicyclists who travel down Highway 1 and boaters who want to spend the night near their boat.</p> <p>Paddlecraft users will be able to launch from Marconi cove and traverse the 1.5 miles to Heart’s Desire or Indian Beaches or other bay destinations and return to their car.</p>	If the area is developed, visitors would be able to enjoy bayside viewing, bird watching, picnicking as well as have adequate parking, inspiring interpretive information, and sanitary restroom facilities.

* Natural or Undeveloped Areas include sites with sensitive natural and cultural resources and natural areas with minimal development of trails, signing, and pit toilets

** Developed Areas may include roads, parking areas, utilities, restrooms, and facilities for recreation, education, and park maintenance and administration